

DAVID CHANDLER THOMAS, PHD

Assistant Professor

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

www.davidchandlerthomas.com

dcthomas@bsu.edu dcthomas@gmail.com

Office Contact Information

Department of Economics, WB 129
Ball State University
2000 W. University Avenue
Muncie, Indiana 47306
765-285-5378

Home Contact Information

Muncie, Indiana 47304
dcthomas@gmail.com

Undergraduate Studies:

BA Economics, California State University (SJSU), *Cum Laude*, 2010

Graduate Studies:

George Mason University, 2012 to 2015

Ph.D. in Economics

Thesis Title: “*Empirical Studies of Emergency Response Services (9-1-1) and an Examination of Moral Hazard in Health Insurance*”

California State University (SJSU), 2011 to 2012

M.A. Economics

Master’s Thesis: “*Advisor Induced Demand and Moral Hazard in the Third-party Payer System*”

References:

Advisor: Professor Thomas Stratmann
Carow Hall
4400 University Drive, MSN 1D3,
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
tstratma@gmu.edu
703.993.2317

Professor Alex T. Tabarrok
Carow Hall 10b
4400 University Drive, MSN ID3
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
atabarro@gmu.edu
703.993.2314

Professor Garrett Jones
Carow Hall 8a
4400 University Drive, MSN ID3
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
gjonesb@gmu.edu
703.993.2315

Teaching and Research Fields:

Primary field(s): Health Economics, Political Economy, Law and Economics

Secondary field(s): Environmental Economics, Game Theory

Teaching Experience:

2012 – 2013	Environmental Economics
2013 – 2014	Environmental Economics
2014 – 2015	Health Economics, Environmental Economics
2015 – 2016	Game Theory and Strategy, Principles of Macroeconomics

Other Employment:

2009 – 2010	Technology Association of America, Executive Vice President
2004 – 2008	Software and Information Industry Association, Executive Director
1999 – 2004	Intacct Corporation, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Other Professional Experience:

2013 – Present	Advisory Board, College of Health and Human Services, GMU
2001 – 2003	100 Most Influential in Accounting Industry, Accounting Today
2005 – 2008	Member of World Wide Web Consortium (Representing SIIA)
2002 – 2004	Chairman of Software Board, SIIA
1980 – 1986	President of Financial Software Division, McGraw-Hill, Inc.

Research Papers:*“The Impact of Emergency Services on U.S. Homicide Rates” (Job Market Paper)*

Approximately 14,500 homicides occur every year in the United States. Except for two brief surges in the 1980s and 1990s, homicide rates have been declining since the mid-1970s. There are at least ten different theories that attempt to explain the decline in homicides, making it one of the most researched and written-about topics. Nevertheless, it is the contention of this paper that the development and subsequent rollout of the 9-1-1 emergency dispatch system, the adoption of cell phones, improvements in emergency medical treatment, and the creation of dedicated trauma centers, are the most significant factors in the reduction of homicide rates, as increasing numbers of aggravated assault victims survive the ordeal.

“The Impact of Basic 9-1-1 Services on Reporting Crime in the United States”

With the introduction of basic 9-1-1 services in the 1970s, the effort required to report a crime decreased. The lower cost of reporting had a positive impact on the number of crimes reported that imposed a direct financial cost on the victim. In addition, the reduction in cost encouraged witnesses to make the call to report. This paper estimates the impact of basic 9-1-1 on the various categories of property and violent crime and considers both the positive and negative incentives affecting the reporting of crime by citizens.

“Health Insurance and Moral Hazard: A Misdiagnosis”

A common misunderstanding of moral hazard emerges from an inaccurate definition of health-care insurance. What we call health insurance is actually a bundle of two services—insured health care and subsidized health care. The insurance portion is designated to cover insurable events while the subsidized care exists because of a tax loophole allowing employers to provide additional compensation to employees, and taxpayer funded coverage for the poor and elderly. This bundling approach has made it difficult to draw a bright line between what is medical insurance and what is merely a tax-free subsidy of the cost of routine care. As a result, many economists have mistakenly included the over-consumption of health care in the moral hazard bundle instead of attributing the behavior to the subsidy. There is, however, a case to be made for the role of the health-care subsidy having a magnifier effect on traditional medical moral hazard. The purpose of this paper is to create an accurate map of health-care moral hazard as an aid in performing empirical studies of the effects of moral hazard and inefficient health-care consumption.

“Advisor Induced Demand and Moral Hazard in the Third-party Payer System”

Health-care consumption in the United States has risen from 5.2% in 1960 to 17.8% of 2009 Gross Domestic Product (GDP) creating a burden that will soon be too heavy for the economy to bear. This paper proposes that the primary accelerants of health-care expenditures result from the third-party payer system that emerged in the 1950s. These corporate benefits and government subsidies, when overlaid on the traditional health-care model, have led to sustained increases in the production, recommendation, and consumption of health care while magnifying the moral hazard problem inherent in health insurance.

“The Parliamentary Process of Investment in Political Firms”

Successful investment bankers have been perfecting their process of selecting and funding private firms for centuries. Since the effectiveness of this process is so essential to delivering high rates of return, one would expect the parliament to engage in a similar process to select and fund political enterprises (bureaucracies). In spite of their diligence, investment bankers suffer far more failures than successes. Measuring success by the launch, growth, and longevity of investments, the parliament is more effective than investors in the private sector. This paper compares the selection criteria of investment bankers and the parliament to help uncover the differences in their success rates.

Recent Conference Proceedings

April 2014 - Association of Private Enterprise Education (APEE) "The Parliamentary Process of Investment in Political Firms"

November 2014 - Southern Economic Association - Annual Meeting, "An Historical Case Study of Business Cycles: Stocks, Tulips, and Houses"

Book Reviews

2012, "A Priceless Review", A book review of *Priceless*, a book by John Goodman.

2012, "All the Incentives Are Here", A book review of the Bethany McLean and Joe Nocera 2010 book, *All the Devils Are Here*

2010, "A Risky Theory of Business Cycles", A review of *Risk and Business Cycles*, a book by Tyler Cowen.

Other Publications

2008, "Channels 2.0: Delivering and Deploying On Demand Solutions", Faqtors Consulting

1984, "Method and apparatus for providing security for computer software", United States Patent and Trademark Office. Washington, DC.

Memberships

American Economic Association (AEA), Current

Southern Economic Association (SEA), Current

Association of Private Enterprise Education (APEE), Current

American Society of Health Economists (ASHEcon), Current

Omicron Delta Epsilon, Current